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## Talking Points for Your Meeting with the STAP on 7 September 1984

New Chairman

- This is the first meeting of the STAP under the direction of its new Chairman, Dr. Stephen (Steve) Lukasik.
- Steve was one of the founders of STAP in 1976 and served as its first Chairman.
- His enthusiasm for the job is quite evident and he has already developed some ideas for improving STAP procedures that are worthy of your serious consideration.
- STAP has made many important contributions since its founding in 1976. I have confidence that those contributions will continue under your new Chairman and I offer you my full support for your activities.

New Member

- This is Admiral Robert (Bob) Long's first meeting as a member of STAP.
- He is a distinguished Naval officer and we are fortunate that he is able to join the panel.
- His presence is especially timely in light of the detailed review of Soviet ASW activity that is now taking place.
- Welcome aboard!

Anti-Submarine Warfare

- The STAP is an important component of the IC's effort to ensure that a full and credible assessment of Soviet ASW developments is available to senior policymakers and members of Congress.

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Soviet Response to SDI

- A Soviet response to the US Strategic Defense Initiative is developing on both diplomatic-political and technical-military fronts.
- The range of possible Soviet actions is broad and the 25-30 year period over which the developments will take place is beyond our ability to make accurate forecasts.
- The STAP should play an important role in ensuring that our collection and analysis activities are adequate to recognizing and assessing Soviet developments undertaken to delay, counter, avoid, or emulate developments in US strategic missile defense.

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Submitted by NIO/S&T  
7 Sep 84

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: Executive Director

SUBJECT: Thoughts on the Information Explosion

I am afraid I start by saying that I think the term "information explosion" tends to obscure rather than illuminate the issues we face. I say that because the intelligence process consists of literally thousands of different kinds of information, a few of which are "exploding," but many of which aren't changing at all.

- In the media world, FBIS has been digesting several million words of press coverage every day for 40 years. And doing it successfully. The D0 is producing somewhere near the same number of agent reports overseas as it has for nearly 40 years, and I see no explosion on this front.
- Many folks seem to be convinced that NPIC will be inundated by new imagery and radar data in the near future and that the flow of this new information constitutes an important part of the information explosion. I am sure there will be some rough spots when the new imagery and radar information actually does begin to flow, but I am very much persuaded that the money we are investing in the NPIC upgrade constitutes an effective response to the problem, i.e., we will be able to cope with the qualitative and quantitative changes in the imagery data available to us when it starts to flow.

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- One of the areas that people seem to be most alarmed about concerns our ability to handle foreign technical literature. I know very little about the question, but I am persuaded we do indeed need to work harder to find more effective ways of dealing with the collection, translation and distribution problem on this front. But there is no need to throw up our hands. The D0 is successfully using a computer translation capability developed by the Air Force some years ago to help with the problem.

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- I am not trying to say that all of this will be easy or inexpensive. I merely point out that I think what we see is more of the same, not a revolutionary change.
- It might be helpful to ask the STAP what they think about the role of artificial intelligence with respect to these problems in the future. In particular, where can we first apply what others are learning in artificial intelligence to our problems?

James H. Taylor

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